

VI. An Account of BOOKS.

I. *Horti Indici Malabarici.*

Pars Septima, Octava, & Nona ; *with some Remarks upon them.*

THE Six first Tomes being abbreviated in the *Philosoph. Transact.* N. 145, and N. 198. This proceeds with the 7th, 8th and 9th, the fruitful Product of that great *Mæcenas* of the Botanick, and other Natural Studies, the Noble *Heer Van Rheed*, whose vast Designs being not confin'd to *Asia* alone, have already survey'd and describ'd the most luxuriant part of *Africa*, which he intends to publish (after the finishing of these his *Oriental Discoveries*) with the same Fidelity, Exactness and Magnificence that we see in the admirable Work before us.

The 7th Part treats of Scandent and Bacciferous Shrubs, the greatest part whereof were never taken notice of by any Writer, or else but very imperfectly touch'd upon : As the *Natsjatam* or *Battavalli*, which is the *Cocculus Indicus* of our Shops, us'd in Ointments or Pastes for the intoxicating of Fish, and driving away Lice and Vermine. It is semper-virent, and grows in sandy places up and down the Kingdom of *Malabar*, and other Eastern Countries : The Leaves are thick set, of the shape of a Heart, and of a bitter taste. The Flowers come out in Clusters, are monopetalose, with five *Laciniae* or Incisures, all reflected, like those of the *Nightshade*, sending forth an Odour like that of *Eldar*. To these

these succeed the Fruit, resembling Grapes, only 'tis *monococ*; first green, then white, afterwards red, and lastly (when ripe) black. The *Indians* beat the whole Plant up with Ginger, spread it upon Flanel, and so take off their Corns, and soften their Feet; sometimes they use only the Fumigation of the Root burnt with *Bufalo's* Excrements and the *Bambon Reed*. After the History of the *Coculus Indicus*, the Publisher gives us 4 sorts of *Caniram*, all a-kin to the *Nux Vomica* of our Shops, of which more in the next.

Schembra-valli, and *Vallia-Pira Pitica* seem to be two wild Vines, climbing up the Trees in thick Woods; they (as also many other Plants in the hot Climates) are never divested of Leaves and Fruit, (of which there will be both green and ripe at the same time) always flowering and bearing through the whole year under a kind Sun, whose Influence is not so bountiful to the *European* Regions.

Malago-Codi is our round, black and white Pepper, which are the same, only the latter is decorticated. *Cattu-Tirpali* is the long Pepper of the *Indians*, which they chew with *Calx* and the Nut *Taufel*, (the Fruit of a Palm named *Arequa*) colouring their Spittle with a red Tincture. These three Species of Pepper, with two more of the same Family, are all fully describ'd, and exactly figur'd in this 7th Tome.

Cari-villandi, a sort of *Sarsaparilla*, for which 'tis us'd by the Natives of *Malabar*; 'tis not unlike the *American Smilax*, call'd *Jupecanga* by *Margrave* and *Piso*, and *Macapatli* by *Hernandez* and *Recobus*, who make 4 Species of *Sarsa*, all bacciferous.

Mendoni, or the *Lilium Superbum Zeylanicum*, one of the choicest Ornaments of the *English* and *Dutch* Gardens, growing up to a very high stature. The Gentiles ascribe strange Vertues to the Root in Sympathy, Incantations, and other Magick Operations. The Fruit

(or rather Excreſcence) ſticking to the Root, ſtops and curbs the proud Fleſh of Ulcers, and is ſucceſsfully given in difficult Births.

To theſe we might add many other rare Plants contain'd in this 7th part: As 4 ſorts of *Indian Ivy*, not unlike our Trifoliate and Quinquefoliate *Creepers*: Several Exotick *Night-ſhades*, one reſembling our *Dulcamara*; great variety of *Battata's*, or *Ricophora's*, very near a-kin to our *Potatoes*, being alſo of general uſe in the Kitchens of *India*. A curious ſort of *Cuſcuta* or *Dodder*, running up and choaking the Boughs of Trees. A beautiful Scandent Reed like the *Rotang*, with many others.

Horti Malabarici.

Pars Octava.

THE 8th Tome deſcribes and figures 51 herbaceous and arboreſcent Plants, the greateſt part of them pomiferous or leguminofe.

The firſt 23 Species may be all referr'd to the Pumpions, the Coloquintida's, the Cucumbers, the Ballom Apples, the Paſſion Flowers or Maracocks, of all which there are great Varieties in both the *Indies*.

Modira-caniram, Tab. 24. pag. 47. contains in its Fruit the round flat Stone or Seed, commonly call'd in our Shops the *Nux Vomica*: The Wood of this Tree is ſaid to be the True *Lignum Colubrinum*, a-kin to the *Caniram* of the Firſt Tome of this Work, Fig. 37. pag. 67, 68. which is the Famous Antidote or Specifick againſt the Bitings of that Indian Serpent, call'd by the *Portugueſes*.

gueses Cobra Copello, whose flat Head is mark'd with the Figure of a pair of Spectacles. This Viper or Serpent I have seen in Mr. *Charlton's* excellent *Museum*. The Juice of the Leaves (though poysonous) apply'd externally, drives away the Gout call'd *Valvida* by the Indians of *Malabar*. *Breynius* in his Second *Prodromus* makes the *Caniram*, and *Modita-Caniram* to be Tree Night-shades, *Solanum arboreum Indicum maximum foliis Oenopliæ sive Nepeçæ, &c. pag. 92, 93.* But whether the *Nux Vomica* is properly the seed of a *Solanum*, I leave to the more nice Botanists to determine.

Amongst the Leguminosè Plants of this 8th Part, the *Perim-kaku-valli* is remarkable, which bears a prodigious large Lobe, containing 30 great flat Beans, out of each whereof they make entire Purfes and Snuff-boxes : These Seeds are call'd by some *Cor Sancti Thomæ*, and by others *Fabæ purgatrices*. They are so common and plentiful in the Islands and Continent of *India*, that whole Ships may be loaded with them.

Nai-Coranna is the *Phaseolus Surattensis Siliquâ hirsutâ pungente*, or our *Couage*, whose blistering or pricking is soon cur'd by the Herb call'd *Thumba*. The Pod and Seed of this Kidney-bean are esteem'd high provocatives to Venerÿ, (perhaps by the same reason that *Cantharides* are) and a successful Medicine in Dropsies. There is another Species of this pungent *Couage* in *Malabar* call'd *Kaku-valli*, a-kin to, if not the same with the *Macouna* of *Brasil*, describ'd by *Margrave* and *Piso*.

Schanga-Cuspi is the *Flos Clitorius* of *Breynius*, the Juyce is Vomitive, and the root Purgative. *Konni* a sort of *Abrus* or *Liquorice*, whose Bean is commended in the *Hæmorrhoids*. *Ana-Mullu*, call'd by the *Portugueses* *Hasticante* and *Fabas Turquesca*, remarkable for its many Galls or Excrescencies full of Insects, as also for its strong sharp Prickles, with which the *Indians* bore their Ears for the hanging of their various Pendants of Gold and Precious

Precious Stones. *Paeru* and *Katu Paeru*, call'd by the *Chineses* *Lak Goetum*, two most delicious *Phaseoli*, or Kidney-beans, cultivated by the Orientals with extream diligence as the best sort of nourishment. *Penarvalli*, resembling the *Abovai* of *Thevet* in its Fruit, hanging down like *Bandaliers*, hence call'd *Fruita Bandoliera* by the *Portugueses*. This Plant is us'd as a powerful Antispasmodick by the *Indians*. The rest of the Herbs in this 8th Tome may be referr'd to the *Halicacabum*, *Aristolochia Clematidis*, and the *Phaseolus*, of the last of which there are many Species in this Volume.

Horti Malabarici.

Pars Nona.

THE 9th Part gives us the full History of 87 Plants with their lively Icons. The first 17 are all *Apo-cynum*'s, some creeping, others scandent, and some arboreseent, resembling *Neriums* or *Oleanders*; of these there is a wonderful Variety in *Malabar*, differing in their Lanigerous or Cotton-like Seed Vessels; their milky Juices are generally corrosive and poysonous.

The *Todda vaddi* of our Author, *Tab.* 19. is the *Herba Viva* of *Acosta*, which grows in many Provinces of *Persia*; 'tis esteem'd as a great Traumatick and Lithonthrictick.

Coletta-Veetla, call'd by Dr. *Herman* *Eryngium Zeylanicum febrifugum, floribus luteis*. The *Indians* chew the Leaves instead of *Betel* with the *Fausel* or *Arequa*, and give the Juice in the *Apthæ* or *Thrush*.

There are also in this 9th Volume several sorts of Trifoliate and Quinquefoliate *Sinapistrums*, many papilionaceous and winged Plants referable to the *Ferrum Equi-*
num,

num, *Astragalus*, *Onobrychis*, to the *Æschynomene's*, *Herba Casta*, *Mimosa's*, to the *Sensitive* and *Humble Plants*, to the *Genistella Tinctoria*. Of the *Crotalaria* (call'd so from the rattling of the Seed, which the little *Indians* play with) there are 5 or 6 different kinds. The rest are a-kin to the *Euphrasia*, *Pulmonaria*, *Verbascum*, *Perficaria*, *Digitalis*, *Hedera terrestris*, *Lysimachia*. Of the *Sesamum* we have two distinct Species in this part, as also of the *Teucrium*, &c. with accurate Descriptions, Figures and Uses ; for all which the Work it self may be consulted.

II. *A Collection of Curious Travels and Voyages, in Two Tomes. The first containing Dr. Leonhart Rauwolff's Itinerary into the Eastern Countreys, &c. The Second taking in many parts of Greece, Asia Minor, Egypt, Arabia, &c. from the Observations of Monsieur Belon, Mr. Vernon, Dr. Spon, Dr. Smith, Dr. Huntingdon, Mr. Greaves, and others. To which are added Three Catalogues of Plants growing in the Levant. By John Ray, S. R. S.*

THIS Work contains the Observations of so many curious and learned Travellers, that it may justly be esteemed the most Judicious and Choicest Collection that ever was yet publish'd of the *Levant*, and some other adjacent Countries.

The first Itinerary is that of Dr. *Leonard Rauwolff* who under the Protection and Encouragement of the House of *Austria*, travel'd into many of the Eastern Parts of the World, where he made it his principal business to visit all the Shops, Ware-houses, Exchanges, Gardens, Woods, &c. in order to learn their Drugs, Merchandises, Arts, Sciences, Trades, and the Products of Nature, most of which he brought home with him. The late *Isaac Vossius* kept 4 large Volumes of *Rauwolff's* Collections, as one of the rarest *Cimelium's* in all his Library. These are now preserv'd with great Care at
Leyden

Leyden, and shewn to Strangers amongst the many Curiosities of that flourishing University.

Rauwolff begins his Voyage at *Auspurg*, from whence he travel'd to *Marseilles*, and there embark'd for *Tripoli*, touching in his Passage upon many Islands of the *Mediterranean Sea*, as *Scicily*, *Malta*, *Candy*, and *Cyprus*. He describes with great exactness the City of *Tripoli*, with its Fruitful Neighbourhood and Trade; he is very particular in his Account of the stately *Bagnio's*, of the *Caravanzeries*, the *Batzars*, the *Fundiques*, and indeed of all their publick and private Buildings: He tells us the ways how the *Turks* prepare their *Rusma*, their Soap and Pot-ashes, and afterwards enumerates the Trees, Shrubs and Herbs growing in the adjacent Countrey: He doth not omit the common Observations of other Travellers relating to Offices, Employments, Manners, Customs, Habits, Religions, Diet, &c.

From *Tripoli* he proceeds to *Aleppo*, the greatest *Emporium* of all the East, laying down very minutely the *Rout* he took. I need only take notice here, that the Author shews the same Exactness and Diligence in describing *Aleppo* as he did before in *Tripoli*; but the Traffick here being much more considerable, he therefore is the more industrious about the Drugs and Merchandize.

From *Aleppo* he travels to *Bir*, and so down the *Euphrates* to old *Babylon*, describing in this Passage the City of *Racka*, *Deer*, and *Ana*, with many Observations upon the *Arabians*, and upon several places of *Chaldæa*, especially the Ruines of *Old Babylon*: He afterwards gives a full Description of *Bagdet*.

His Return from *Bagdet* is through *Assyria*, the Confines of *Persia*, and the Province of the *Curters*, to the River *Tigris*, and to *Mosell*, the old *Nineve*; then he continues his Journey through *Mesopotamia* by the way of *Zibin* and *Orpha* to *Bir*, and so to *Aleppo*, and *Tripoli*

again. Here he gives us a most accurate Account of *Mount Libanus*, which he survey'd with that diligence, as never any Traveller did before him.

From *Tripoli* he goes to *Joppa*, and so to *Jerusalem*, viewing the greatest part of *Palæstine*, and describing all the Holy Places, with the several Sects of *Christians* inhabiting there; he never omits the Plants he observ'd growing up and down. Afterwards he embarks at *Tripoly* for *Venice*, and so from thence he returns into *Germany*, loaded with the Spoils of the East.

The Second Tome of these Collections contain great Variety: As First, Several of Monsieur *Belon's* Itineraries and Voyages, to *Candy*, *Mount Athos*, from thence thro' *Macedonia* to the Silver and Gold Mines, and so thro' *Thrace* to *Constantinople*, and from thence into *Ægypt*. This curious *French-man* was sent with *Petrus Gyllius* to Travel, and write the History of Quadrupeds, Birds, Fishes, Insects, Plants and Fossils, at the Expence and under the Patronage of that great Restorer of Learning, *Francis the First*, of immortal Memory.

Secondly, Mr. *Vernon's* Travels thro' part of *Istria*, *Dalmatia*, *Peloponnesus*, *Attica*, and *Asia Minor*. This worthy Gentleman always carried along with him several useful Mathematical Instruments, and was exact in his Latitudes: Great things might have been expected from him, if he had not been unfortunately kill'd in *Persia*.

Thirdly, The Plants observ'd by Sir *George Wheeler* in *Greece*.

Fourthly, Several Miscellaneous Observations made by Dr. *Smith* during his Travels in the *Turkish* Empire.

Fifthly, Mr. *Greaves* his Accounts of the Latitude of *Constantinople*, and of the *Ægyptian Pyramids*. This Learned Mathematician seems very exact in his Calculations and Measures, being furnished in his Travels with all things necessary for Observation.

Sixthly,

Sixthly, The *Ægyptian* Observations of *Prosper Alpinus*, who resided and practised Physick several Years at *Grand Caire*, and afterwards for his great Merit was appointed Botanick Professor at *Padua*, by the particular Order of the Commonwealth of *Venice*.

To these we find added in this Second Tome some curious Remarks of Dr. *Huntingdon*; as also several Itineraries and Voyages into many parts of *Arabia*, as to *Mecha* and *Medina*, to *Moha*, *Aden*, *Zenan*, *Doffar*, &c. and also into *Æthiopia* or *Habessinia*, with the several ways of getting into that Kingdom, extracted from Authentick Instructions. Amongst these are inserted some Observations upon the *Red Sea*, for all which the Book it self may be consulted, as containing many things not commonly known, and therefore the more to be valued.

At the end are inserted three Catalogues of such Trees, Shrubs and Herbs, as have been observed to grow wild in *Greece*, *Syria*, *Ægypt*, *Candy*, &c. The Names given by *Rauwolfff*, *Bellonius*, *Honorio Belli*, &c. being either *Arabian* ones from *Avicen*, *Serapio*, *Mesua* and *Rhazas*; or *Greek* from *Theophrastus* and *Dioscorides*; or else *Barbarous* from the present Inhabitants: 'Twas thought therefore convenient to add the new Names of late Writers, which do much illustrate the whole. For this Addition of Catalogues the Publick is wholly oblig'd to the Pains and Skill of Mr. *Ray*.